

IMMIGRATION OPTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY



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| | What Is It? | Could I Be Eligible? | Could I Obtain Additional Relief? |
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| U VISA | <p>U nonimmigrant status (U visa) is for survivors of certain crimes who have suffered substantial mental or physical harm and are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have suffered substantial physical/mental abuse because you were a victim of a <u>qualifying crime</u>, such as abduction, abusive sexual contact, blackmail, domestic violence, extortion, false imprisonment, female genital mutilation, felonious assault, fraud in foreign labor contracting, hostage, incest, involuntary servitude, kidnapping, manslaughter, murder, obstruction of justice, peonage, perjury, prostitution, rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, slave trade, stalking, torture, trafficking, witness tampering, unlawful criminal restraint, and other related crimes. You have reported the crime to law enforcement or are willing to do so. The crime occurred in the U.S. or violated U.S. laws. You are admissible to the United States or you can get a waiver. | <p><u>Work Permit:</u> If your petition passes an initial review (also known as bona fide determination), you may receive a work permit.</p> <p><u>Green Card:</u> After you have held a U visa for 3 years and been present in the U.S. for three years with the U visa, you can apply for lawful permanent residence (green card).</p> |
| T VISA | <p>T nonimmigrant status (T visa) is for survivors of a severe form of human trafficking who have helped law enforcement in an investigation or prosecution of human trafficking.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are a victim of a severe form of labor trafficking or sex trafficking. You are in the United States due to trafficking. You have helped or are willing to help law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of human trafficking. You would suffer extreme hardship involving unusual and severe harm if you were removed from the United States. You are admissible to the U.S. or you can get a waiver | <p><u>Work Permit:</u> If your T visa is approved, you may also receive a work permit.</p> <p><u>Green Card:</u> After you have held the T visa for 3 years and been present in the U.S. for three years with the T visa, you can apply for lawful permanent residence.</p> |

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| VAWA | <p>Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is for survivors of domestic violence whose abusive spouse, child, or parent is a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident (LPR).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are or were within the last 2 years the spouse, child, or parent of an abusive U.S. citizen or LPR. You reside or resided with the U.S. citizen or LPR abuser. You have been battered by or have been the subject of extreme cruelty by the abusive U.S. citizen or LPR. You are a person of good moral character. | <p><u>Work Permit:</u> If your VAWA self-petition is approved, you may receive a work permit. If your abuser is a US citizen, you may be able to get a work permit sooner.</p> <p><u>Green Card:</u> If your abuser is a US citizen, you can apply for a green card when you apply for VAWA. If your abuser is a LPR, you will need to wait until a visa is available.</p> |
| SIJS | <p>Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) is for immigrant minors who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected by a parent.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are under 21 years old and unmarried. You are in the United States. You can get a US court order stating you were abused, abandoned, or neglected by one or both parents, reunification with one or both parents is not possible, and it is not in your best interest to be returned to your country. | <p><u>Work Permit:</u> If your SIJS petition is approved, you may receive a work permit.</p> <p><u>Green Card:</u> After your SIJS petition is approved, you can apply for a green card. You can also apply at the same time you file your SIJS petition, but the government will not review your LPR application until after your SIJS petition is approved.</p> |
| ASYLUM | <p>Asylum is for people who have suffered persecution or fear that they will suffer persecution in their home country because of their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are outside of your country of origin. You have suffered or fear you will suffer persecution in your home country. The feared persecution was or would be because of your race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. The persecution was or would be by the government or someone the government is either unable or unwilling to control. | <p><u>Work Permit:</u> 150 days after your asylum application is filed, you may apply for a work permit.</p> <p><u>Green Card:</u> After you have held asylum status for a year, you can apply for legal permanent residence (green card).</p> |